Message Text

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UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 1569

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SENV, SW

SUBJECT: AVAILABILITY OF UNLEADED GASOLINE IN WESTERN EUROPE

REF: STATE 91716

THE SWEDISH ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION BOARD RESPONDED TO QUESTIONS IN PARAGRAPH 1 REFTEL AS FOLLOWS:

- (A) UNLEADED GASOLINE IS NOT READILY AVAILABLE FOR PASSENGER CARS IN SWEDEN. THE LEAD CONTENT IS AT PRESENT MAX. $0.4\,\mathrm{G/I}$
- (B) IN DECEMBER 1977 THE SWEDISH PRODUCTS CONTROL BOARD PROPOSED TO THE GOVERNMENT THAT THE LEAD CONTENT OF GASOLINE BE REDUCED TO MAX. 0.15 G/1 FROM 1980. FURTHERMORE, TESTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN SWEDEN TO REPLACE LEAD WITH METHANOL. THE MIXTURE IS ABOUT 20 PERCENT METHANOL AND 80 PERCENT GASOLINE AND NO LEAD. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THIS MIXTURE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE MARKET IN ABOUT SEVEN YEARS. (C) CARS IN SWEDEN ARE NOT AT PRESENT EQUIPPED WITH CATALYTIC CONVERTERS. THE CURRENT EXHAUST REGULATIONS ARE FROM 1976 AND CAN BE MET BY MODIFICATIONS ON THE ENGINE. IF SWEDEN INTRODUCES NEW REGULATIONS, CATALYTIC CONVERTERS WILL BE REQUIRED, BUT THIS IS UNLIKELY TO HAPPEN IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. THEREFORE, UNLEADED GASOLINE IS NOT EXPECTED TO BE AVAILABLE IN SWEDEN IN THE NEAR FUTURE. UNCLASSIFIED

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Message Attributes

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